

Aruba's opposition party wins parliament elections

By MARGARET WEVER
Associated Press Writer
ORANJESTAD-Arubans concerned by a struggling economy and unhappy with a local business tax voted to unseat Prime Minister Nelson Oduber after eight years in control of parliament.

The opposition People's Party won 48 percent of the vote in Friday's election and will control 12 of 21 legislative seats,

according to results released Saturday by the Elections Council.

"I am convinced we will make Aruba a happy island again," People's Party leader Mike Eman said as thousands of people unfurled the party's green flag and set off firecrackers to celebrate.

Oduber's People's Electoral Movement, which has held power



Curacao police:

US vice consul missing

(AP) — WILLEMSTAD, Curacao - Authorities in Curacao say the Dutch Caribbean island's U.S. vice consul has gone missing.

Police spokesman Alfred Suarez says officers are looking for 49-year-old James Hogan. Suarez spoke on Friday, a day after Hogan's wife filed a missing-persons report.

A consul official reached Friday night declined to comment.

The Netherlands Antilles government is based in Curacao, which lies about 40 miles (64 kilometers) off Venezuela's coast.

Bonaire, Saba, St. Eustatius and St. Maarten also are part of the Netherlands Antilles. □

since 2001, won 36 percent of the vote and will hold 8 seats. The last spot went to the Democratic Party.

Eman's party won in part on promises to eliminate the 3 percent cumulative tax on local businesses and to lower inflation on the Dutch Caribbean island, a tourism-based economy that is dependent on imports and known for high prices. Eman also pledged to address concerns about lagging tourism — down 5 percent in the first half of the year — as well as impending layoffs by Valero Energy Corp., which owns the island's refinery.

San Antonio-based Valero has said it will dismiss several hundred contract workers at the refinery, which has been closed since mid-July. It has not decided the fate of 780 permanent employees there.

The Elections Council said 85 percent of 64,600 voters participated in Friday's vote. It expects to certify results by Tuesday.

Aruba obtained full autonomy in its internal affairs when it separated from the Netherlands Antilles in 1986, but the Dutch government still oversees defense and other areas. □

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appetizers such as Cajun Crab Cakes, Beef Tenderloin Skewers, Nova Scotia Smoked Salmon Carpaccio, Roasted Hearts of Artichokes Salad over Arugula, Seafood Soup, Lobster Bisque and a rich Cream of Potato. In addition to its very exciting list of entrees overflowing with steaks, veal, lamb, lobster, fresh fish and shrimp the restaurant features a daily Steak Night Attraction, with a different selection each day of the week: Monday, 16 oz. Sirloin; Tuesday, 20 oz. T-Bone

steak, Wednesday, 22 oz. Prime Rib; Thursday, 16 oz. Rib Eye; Friday, Australian Lamb Chops, and Sunday a Loin Rib special with chef Moses' secret sauce. All entrees are accompanied by a choice of baked potato, mashed potatoes, French fries and fresh vegetables. An Early Bird 3-course special offers real value for money for those who prefer to dine between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Open from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. just across the Radisson Aruba Resort Casino & Spa



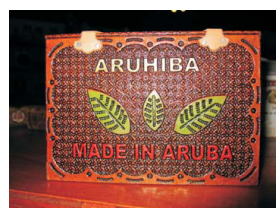
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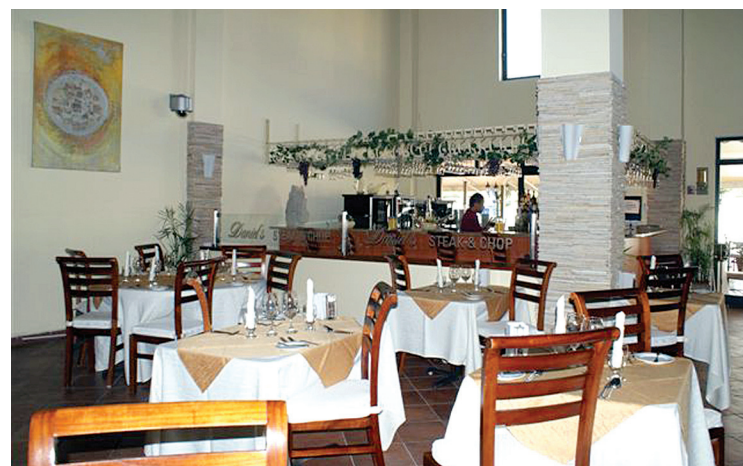
ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba.



Petrocchi has always had an interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crop. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The process took ten years. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the molding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. The cigar box is specially designed for the cigars with the logo "Aruhiba". Petrocchi considers Aruhiba a promotion for Aruba through fine quality cigars. The company sells International cigars as well. Buy a gift box of Aruhiba Corona with five cigars and you will get 1 FREE cigar of \$35. Located at the Historic Dutch Windmill. Open on Sunday from 9am to 8pm. And also at Tamarijn Hotel open from 9am to 1pm. Aruhiba is only available in above mentioned stores. Visit our authentic tobacco farm where cigars are handmade.



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Aruba welcomes James Hepple!

ORANJESTAD - Tourism consultant James Hepple has resigned from his post at the St Lucia Tourist Board but is officially set to leave his St Lucian post in October. Days after the SLTB issued press statements to the media stating that Hepple would, "complete his assignment at the end of August," the Aruba Hotel and Tourism Association (AHATA) issued a release that Hepple, "a valuable asset" in the tourism business, would indeed fill a distinguished tourism role on the island. Aruba, a sparkling island in the ABC island chain, with neighbouring islands Curacao and Bonaire has

in years past received its share of negative publicity. Infamously the island was the setting for the high profile Natalie Holloway kidnapping in May 2005. Since then the island has managed to bounce back boasting one of the lowest crime rates in the Caribbean region.

A press release from the Aruba Hotel and Tourism Association said the AHATA and its board of directors "is proud to announce the addition of James Richard Hepple as AHATA's next President and CEO."

"James Hepple is a distinguished tourism professional who holds ample experience in the

Caribbean region, and who will undoubtedly prove a valuable asset in the development of programs for AHATA members and in the further promotion of the destination of Aruba," the release read adding the Hepple came to Aruba from his last post in Saint Lucia, where he held a key position for the Saint Lucia Tourist Board (since 2007).

"AHATA looks forward to welcoming Hepple to Aruba and to the AHATA staff in the fourth quarter of this year, after completing the appropriate legal requirements for his stay on island and on the job with AHATA. Hepple will



Aruba appears to be rolling out the red carpet for James Hepple as he is set to become president of the hotel and tourism association there.

replacetheoutgoingAHATA vacate his current position President & CEO Rob with AHATA on October Smith, who is scheduled to 16, 2009."□

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Fundacion Pro Lechi di Mama organizes its first event

Quintessence Breastfeeding Challenge: All babies count

ORANJESTAD - On Saturday, October 3rd, countries from around the world will take part in the globally synchronized Quintessence Breastfeeding Challenge.

In Aruba this event will be organized for the first time by Fundacion Pro Lechi di mama and it will take place

at the Paseo Herencia from 9am til 1pm.

Each year, during 40 weeks, of the year, Pro lechi di mama, like other countries around the world celebrates the World Breastfeeding week.

This year Fundacion Pro Lechi di Mama wants to

do something different, that will conscientize that breastfeeding is something normal in the Aruban community. That's why Fundacion Pro Lechi di Mama decided to participate for the first time at the Quintessence Foundation Breastfeeding Challenge that will take place worldwide.

The Quintessence Breastfeeding Challenge will focus on the importance of breastfeeding. To improve the health of a child worldwide, an event like this is importante to conscientize and educate the whole community on how and why breastfeeding is so importante.



The theme of this year will be: All babies count.

The Challenge is to record the most babies breastfeeding at one time in a geographic location (province, state, or territory) as a percentage of the birthrate. It's a great opportunity for mothers, fathers, families and supporters to have fun and be recognized for the wonderful start they are giving to their children.

The mothers who want to participate at this event can register at Paseo Herencia at the cashier in the parkinglot or via email: prolechimama@hotmail.com. You have to send your name, email address and phone number. You can also call 5932682 or 5934444 to register. Registration is free. ☐



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ORANJESTAD – October 4th, International Day will be celebrated worldwide. And once more Philip Merryweather opens his doord to the people of Aruba, so everyone can come and enjoy the day with his exotic animals.

There will be a great variety of interesting animals to be admired, and also activities for children such as pony ride, dino jump, face painting and also the public will have the opportunity to feed the animals.

Everybody is invited to come on October 3 & 4, from 11 am to 7pm, to enjoy the day with the animals. Entrance fee Afls. 3,00. □



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*** Human Hints Daily ***

Outgrow Your Obstacles

We all have problems in life. Whether we call them opportunities, challenges, or roadblocks, resistance by any other name still requires more time and energy than grace.

We have always focused on overcoming our problems, but to overcome invokes stress, resistance, fighting to overpower what is in our way. This is ego's way of handling obstacles. It seeks to obliterate the opposition, which is the foundation of war.

Ego cannot think beyond basic survival, and it has protected us in the three dimensional world based on

Separation. Now that we're shifting into four dimensions based on Unity, Ego's old ways will only hold us back. We are shifting into a new reference point for personal expression.

Instead of overcoming your problems, focus on how you can outgrow them. When we outgrow a problem, it becomes powerless.

When we naturally release our emotions from the obstacle, it disappears. Obstacles exist only in our own self-defeating thoughts. Problems have the power to hinder our progress only because we are emotionally attached to them. Our

emotions are the lifeblood of our opposition. Without our emotional energy, the problems disappear.

If you take a child's security blanket, the child will learn to life without it. Children will overcome their need for external support, but probably only after separation anxiety sets in and plagues their life. On the other hand, when children outgrow their need for a security blanket, they take their own power back from an object that is separate from themselves. Outgrowing means that you remove your emotional tie to a situation or person that is separate from yourself.

Without an emotional tie, it can no longer control you.

The easiest way to outgrow your problems is to see them in the context of the bigger picture, and change your attitude toward them. Whatever challenge you are faced with, it fits into the big picture of the pursuit of your dreams. Think about how your obstacle will help you reach your goals. What opportunities exist that you didn't see before? What are you preparing for, that the big picture might bring? What emotional and physical skills can you learn now that will serve you in the future.

Ask yourself what you want to learn from the problem. Ask yourself how you want to grow in this moment, to bring you closer to your personal goals. Once you learn from it, you will outgrow it and release it, to make room for a new challenge.

Think of how you will be different after the problem is gone. How will you have grown? What new challenges can you now face, because you outgrew the old?

You don't have to overcome anything. You only have

to learn and grow. You can either face the challenge or use it as an opportunity to redirect your path. Either choice will lead you closer to your desires.

Until Tomorrow...

Go to www.HumanHints.com to sign up to receive this column in your email each day.

~Quentin Danziger

Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit. He has held positions of responsibility and authority, received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines, and has also studied many avenues of alternative thought.

HumanHints is the culmination of his knowledge, experience and practice. These free daily emails detail concrete, real-world techniques to consciously create any future you choose, while in the throes of daily life created by outdated modes of thought.

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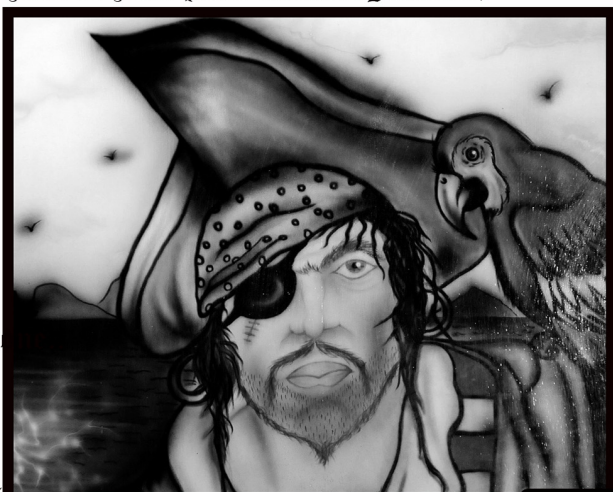
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The Brazilian-style steakhouse also offers a garden full of healthy eats on a lavish 40-item seasonal salad bar, giving dieters plenty to choose from to accompany the

slow-roasted meats. A selection of fresh lettuces and vegetables may be standard for most salad bars, but Texas de Brazil's version goes a gourmet twist further, treating the palate to additional items like marinated portabella mushrooms, sweet roasted bell peppers, hearts of palm, sundried tomatoes, imported cheeses—including fresh buffalo mozzarella—sushi, home-made soups, and much more.

The salad bar is included in the continuous service meal with unlimited choices from the grilled meats, but for vegetarians or the non-meat eaters, a special price is offered for just the salad bar. Of course, for those looking to splurge while on vacation, Texas de Brazil will gladly serve their garlic mashed potatoes, traditional fried plantains, and their world-famous parmesan cheese bread as part of the meal.

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PALM BEACH - Fresher than fresh, is the motto of the popular Bugaloe Beach Bar & Grill at De Palm Pier. Caught in the morning, served at night... That's the Bugaloe way!

Jumbled Chef Marc Hernandez is proudly presenting his rich platter with an 18oz Red Snapper or Grouper, a choice depending on the catch of that day. "Bugaloe is known for fun and craziness, so it was just a logical step for me to go crazy with this colorful pallet

of exquisite fish, yellow rice and rich vegetables," Chef Marc says. With a smile he adds "And that just for US\$ 20!"

And right he is, as the platter has been a hit from the start. Served with a bottle of white wine this fish feast is truly a delight on your Monday night.

Bugaloe is located at
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Bugaloe Beach Bar and Grill is open daily from 8am till midnight. You may go there for a casual lunch or dinner and on Mondays the special is served from 5:30pm till 10:00pm. Reservations are not needed... just follow the good music, the fun and the smiles on the beach and you will know where Bugaloe is.



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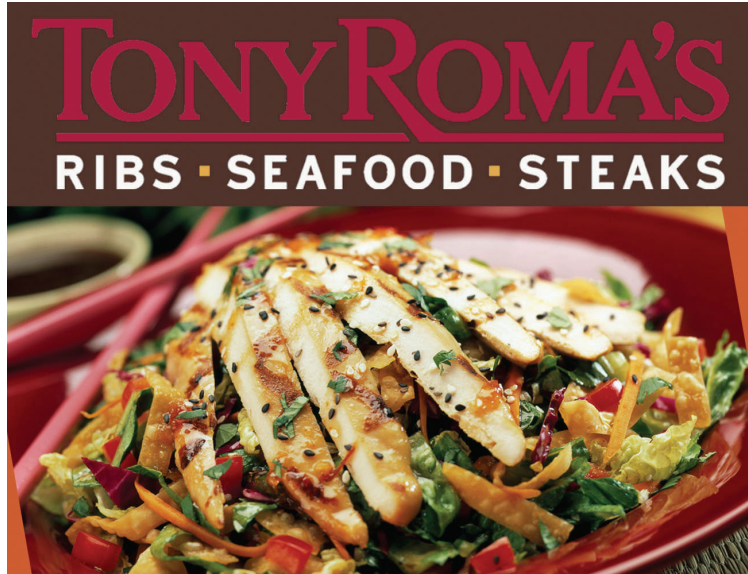
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AVP takes the helm of the island of Aruba

Dr. Richard Visser & his team enjoy the Victory



BUBALI- On Friday night, Dr. Richard Visser & his team enjoyed watching the political graphs to see who was going to win this year's election. Close friends and family gathered together as Dr. Richard Visser won together with his team of the AVP political party. As AVP was announced for the political election, Dr. Visser enjoyed his victory as friends threw him in the pool. The glorious moments were applauded by everyone as AVP was announced the majority winner of 12 seats in the Aruba Parliament and will now take the helm of the island of Aruba. Dr. Richard Visser has been a leader in the health industry of Aruba. He has made great efforts in assisting the Aruban people on how to promote good health and sports. THE Aruban people have given the AVP the ultimate trust something that AVP has not seen in 60 years. "I promise within the next four years, I will be working with all my heart and all my capacity to give Aruba back the quality and the care that Aruba has not seen in a long time," stated Dr. Richard Visser. Aruba Today Congratulates AVP and all the candidates. □



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Melissa and Bob tie the knot



EAGLE -Melissa Landolfi and Bob Black of Rhode Island vowed eternal love last week. The lovebirds met online on Myspace after Bob had posted

that he was in Washington and seen the Dave Matthews Band. Melissa commented on how lucky he was and it struck him to see a stranger reply rather

than a friend. After clicking on her portfolio he instantly fell in love. They began writing for about two weeks which followed by phone calls, each



time revealing more about one another. They finally met and it felt like they had known each other forever. They were dating for 3 1/2 years and have been to 8 Dave Matthews shows in that time. Bob knew that it was time to propose and knew that with the upcoming concert at Fenway Park that it would be the perfect moment. During the concert, the song "So Damn Lucky" began to play and Melissa turned to Bob with a tear knowing that this moment brought them together 3 1/2 years earlier. They both said "I love You" and then Bob replied "No, I LOVE YOU." It was at this point that he vowed his love as Melissa

cried and he slid the ring on her finger. They had planned their first vacation to Aruba and after they were engaged they knew it was the perfect place for a wedding. On September 18, 2009 at Divi Phoenix Resort, Melissa and Bob vowed their love under the Aruba sun as Reverend Robert Gibson delivered a romantic sermon. Bella Aruba Photography captured the moment as it unfolded. The lovebirds dined at Sunset Bistro adjacent to their ceremony and enjoyed a starlit evening with their feet in the sand in a romantic ambient setting. □

Photos by Angela






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St Maarten/St Martin Day draft programme released

~ Theme: 'Expressing gratitude to our forefathers' ~

PHILIPSBURG--"Expressing gratitude to our forefathers" will be the theme for this year's St. Maarten/St. Martin Day celebrations, the organising committee announced in the presence of Culture Commissioner Hyacinth Richardson at a press conference Thursday. Winner of the theme competition Rena Richardson was introduced and the draft schedule for the celebrations was released.

The winning theme was selected from 50 entries. Criteria for the judging process were that the theme had to be cultural and original, had to depict celebrations, and had to be catchy and memorable. Rena received a BlackBerry cellular phone from United Telecommunications Services and a commemorative plaque. She said the theme sought to acknowledge how far along the island had come while acknowledging the influence of our forefathers.

Organising committee chairwoman Fabiana Arnell explained that the programme for this year's celebrations was still in the planning stages, but highlighted some of the proposed key events.

The day is set to kick off at 5:00am on November 11 with a number of sporting activities such as a relay race, fishing, kite-flying, swimming and much more. A church service will be held later during the morning, following the wreath-laying, singing of the anthems

and hoisting of the flags at the Bellevue border monument. There will be a parade of uniformed groups, including the various Scouting groups, through Philipsburg leading to the Festival Village on Pond Island, where dignitaries will give their official addresses.

Following a luncheon of the dignitaries at noon, there will be a cultural parade. The various national associations will be invited to display their cultural wear. Arnell said this presentation would be folkloric and was expected to be bigger than the cultural parade held in 2007, with many groups already signed up.

In the Festival Village, the day will progress with entertainment being as cultural as possible, while vendors will occupy the 68 booths in the village selling items from food and drinks to arts and craft. A playground area will be provided for youngsters, with the possibility for persons interested in contributing their inflatable castles, trampolines, slides, etc. to register with the organising committee.

Registration can be done by collecting a registration form from the information desk at the Government Administration Building. Interested booth holders can also sign up following the same procedure.

In addition, pre-St. Maarten/St. Martin Day activities will commence with a Culture Blend show in the Festival

Village on November 6, a Gospel Concert also in the Festival Village on November 7 and a beach bash on November 8, followed by the Interscholastic Primary Talent Show Competition on the same day in the evening.

Arnell said the St. Maarten/St.

Martin Day budget was still being finalised. Noting that government's contribution would be limited, she encouraged the local business community to contribute generously to the festivities. She also encouraged the community at large to start

promoting St. Maarten/St. Martin Day as early as October. She suggested that from the first week of November local business establishments should have their employees wear polo shirts bearing the colours of the flag as an expression of love for St. Maarten. □

SuperHost graduates 40 customer service envoys

PHILIPSBURG--Forty "customer service ambassadors" graduated on Thursday evening after successfully completing the St. Maarten SuperHost Fundamentals in Customer Service training courses.

Through St. Maarten Harbour Holding Company, several participants from the harbour's administrative and operational teams, Checkmate Security, and Dutch St. Maarten Taxi Association have completed the St. Maarten SuperHost training. Also included among the graduates are employees of S.E.L. Maduro, E1 Productions, Montage N.V. and Innovative Marketing Creations (IMC), the official agents of St. Maarten SuperHost (SMOSH).

St. Maarten Hospitality and Trade Association (SHTA) Director of Education Josianne Fleming-Artsen told the 40 ambassadors their accomplishments were all about vision. "A clear vision of transforming attitudes," she said. "Your skills will enable you to become excellent customer service agents. But don't be that person for one day, be that person for the rest of your lives."

IMC General Manager Jacqueline Louis said, "Through this graduation ceremony, we have achieved yet another major milestone in the movement to bring back our friendly island." "We take a moment to recognise this initial group of graduates who, by participating in the St. Maarten SuperHost Customer Service training courses, have been empowered with the necessary skills and tools to be better customer service ambassadors.

"However, the movement continues, and we will not stop until we have reinforced the need for local businesses and organisations to better prepare their workforce to provide customers and tourists with excellent customer service; our livelihood depends on it," she stressed.

Commissioners Theo Heyliger and Frans Richardson were joined by Chamber of Commerce President Glen Carty, SHTA President Emil Lee, SHTA Senior Project Manager Robert Dubourcq and other business and community leaders.

Heyliger received the St. Maarten SuperHost Business Membership certificate on behalf of St. Maarten Harbour Holding Company, one of the initial entities that signed on to train their multicultural teams of service providers. He commended St. Maarten SuperHost on the continued vision and passion for improving the standard of customer service in St. Maarten.

Commissioner Richardson publicly pledged his support for St. Maarten SuperHost in follow-up to various discussions held for consideration of SuperHost as the Island Government's programme of choice to improve customer service on the Dutch side of the island, as well as ongoing marketing efforts to rebrand "our friendly island."

Carty commended the event organisers for beginning the movement and addressed the need for ongoing follow-up of customer service trainings, particularly to address the underlying issues faced as non-locals benefit from the local economy without proper training, preparation, or understanding of the local culture. □



Welcome tradition: Old Home Days endures 110 years



Rod Dore looks over some fresh produce with farmer Ray Helgemoe of Eric's Farm Stand during Old Home Days in Pelham, N.H., Saturday, Sept. 12, 2009.

(AP Photo/Jim Cole)

By **HOLLY RAMER**,
Associated Press Writer

HOLLIS, N.H. — Old Home Days: New Hampshire's original economic stimulus plan.

The language was lofty when Gov. Frank Rollins invited all New Hampshire natives and their descendants to "return and visit the scenes of their youth" during the nation's first Old Home Week celebration 110 years ago.

"When you think of the old home, you bring back the tenderest memories possessed by man; true love, perfect faith, holy reverence, high ambitions," he wrote in 1899. Behind the formal flourishes was a marketing campaign with a very practical goal: to revitalize not just the state's spirit but its finances. Young residents were fleeing family farms for big-city jobs, and rural areas were starting to look a bit shabby.

"He was urging people to come home, not just to visit but maybe to buy up some of these farms as summer homes," said Gary Crooker of Wilton, author of "New Hampshire Old Home Celebrations" and chairman of his town's event for the past 30 years. "And a lot of them did. It was successful."

Rollins' idea soon spread to the other New England states and beyond. Though

the mission and organization have evolved over the years, many of the activities and the overall atmosphere have remained remarkably constant. Bonfires have given way to fireworks displays, but parades, music and food still dominate most celebrations. The Pembroke Women's Club sold 16 varieties of homemade muffins. In Hollis, members of a Christian youth group served hot apple crisp topped with ice cream.

While some towns actively reach out to residents who've moved away, the message is more "welcome" than "welcome home" in others. Natives find a sense of nostalgia, while newcomers get introduced to their communities.

"We have a large transient population and this is a great chance to meet people who are new to the community ... but we still believe in the tradition," said Kathy Wagner, chairwoman of the Old Home Day committee in Londonderry. The southern New Hampshire town, between Manchester and Nashua, the state's two largest cities, has a perfect record of holding Old Home Day celebrations since 1899.

Wagner, who has watched the town's population grow from about 8,000 residents to 25,000 in the 20 years she's

lived there, said Old Home Days has grown as well. It now stretches across five days in August, with one night devoted to entertainment for children, another for senior citizens.

"It's a townwide party celebrating everyone, including all generations," she said. "It's just a chance for everyone to get together and just have some fun."

In Hollis, an affluent bedroom community on the Massachusetts border, Ann Dogherty arrived early to watch her 3-year-old grandson march in the Old Home Days parade earlier this month. Dogherty, 67, moved to Hollis several years ago from Massachusetts and said she appreciated how friendly everyone has been, particularly at Old Home

Days.

"I like the closeness, the feeling of unity," she said. "If you don't know anyone, by the end of the day you will."

In the early years, Old Home Week was a top-down affair, with the state Department of Agriculture keeping tabs on which towns participated and asking them to file annual reports.

Today, towns have far more flexibility and generally hold their events between June and September. Some are for a day; some for a week; some every few years.

The towns now set their own agendas, with volunteer committees, historical societies, churches and other groups often taking the lead roles. Crooker, for example, is chairman of the Old Home

Day Committee in Wilton, which raises about \$20,000 in private donations to cover the cost of its once-every-five-years event.

The main attraction is a scavenger hunt that sends participants all over the small southern New Hampshire town.

Crooker said the economy loomed large this year, though not in the original sense of enticing former residents to buy up property. Instead, Old Home Days offered those struggling through the economic recession an inexpensive escape. Though individual organizations from Scouts to schools use Old Home Days for fundraising, no one gets rich by selling chocolate bars or running a dunking booth. □

Meltdown's lasting cultural impact tough to gauge

By **JOCELYN NOVECK**,

AP National Writer

The economy is really bad, Jay Leno told his "Tonight Show" audience in March.

How bad?

"So bad that on 'Sesame Street,' they won't even talk about the letters A, I or G anymore."

Not that Leno was content to leave it at that. In fact, in eight months starting on Labor Day 2008, the comedian told no fewer than 863 jokes about the financial meltdown in his "Tonight Show" monologues, according to a Washington group that monitors such things. Counting jokes is straightforward enough.

It's a lot harder, of course, to gauge the more subtle ways in which the Great Recession has impacted our culture: How we interact, how we entertain ourselves, how we worship, what we wear and buy and read and watch.

One cultural message has been clear, and Leno's populist jokes reflect it: The country has been in no mood to celebrate ostentatious wealth, or those forces seen to have brought us to such a precarious place in our history.

But some historians say such a mood is in some ways cyclical, a phenomenon that has followed past recessions and then disappeared — until the next downturn.

"It's a critique that emerges periodically in our history, that consumption is corrupting," says Peter J. Kastor, a professor of history and American culture at Washington University in St. Louis. "Those concerns have been around since 1776." But, he says, we are a society

of consumers, and that's what will ultimately prevail. Others agree.

"Certainly, you can see more critical attitudes toward conspicuous displays of wealth," says Bruce Schulman, a historian at Boston University. "And you can expect popular culture to reflect those attitudes. But we are a country that depends on consumption, and that's why I would not expect us to see really enduring cultural changes."

Perhaps that's also why some designers allowed themselves a little optimism at this month's Fashion Week shows in New York. The glitz of some previous spring seasons was gone, but in contrast to the more somber fall styles now in stores, one could spy some feathers and even a little tinsel from at least one influential label, Proenza Schouler.

"The last thing the world needs is another black pencil skirt," said Proenza's Lazaro Hernandez. "You want something that feels more joyful." And something different, he might have added, to bring women back to the stores and keep the industry afloat. Designer clothes are, of course, accessible only to a few. One can't say the same for movies, which do well in times of economic distress because they're a relatively cheap, not to mention escapist, form of entertainment.

Indeed, Hollywood is coming off a huge summer in what's been a banner year, with revenues running at a record pace of \$7.4 billion for the year, 7.8 percent ahead of 2008 ticket sales, according to box office tracker Hollywood.com. □

Wall Street readies for busy week of economic data

By SARA LEPRO,
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — Investors are just not sure where the economy is headed. And so the stock market may be in limbo for a while.

After stocks stumbled last week on disappointing reports on housing and manufacturing, investors are concerned that the economy's rebound will be slower than originally thought. They may cool their buying and even resort to more selling until they are more certain that the strength of the recovery warrants extending the nearly seven-month-long advance in stocks.

"The significant advance that the market has had ... has left some people with an itchy trigger finger," said Jim McDonald, chief investment strategist at Northern Trust.

This week, a number of data points should provide more insight. Chief among the reports is the Labor Department's monthly reading on the labor market, due Friday. Unemployment is considered one of the economy's biggest obstacles.

Investors will also get reports on home prices, manufacturing, consumer confidence, construction spending and factory orders.

Beyond the economic data, investors will be watching for updated outlooks from companies ahead of third-quarter earnings reports next month.

As the quarter comes to a close, this is the time when companies may signal how well they have been faring and what their expectations are for the remainder of the year.

"Typically stocks will be soft going in to the actual earnings reports," McDonald said, noting that stocks pulled back about 7 percent during the four weeks leading up to second-quarter earnings season this summer.

The stock market sold off last week, weighed down by unexpected drops in home sales and durable goods orders, as well as tumbling commodity prices. Investors looked past a better-than-expected report on unemployment and an improvement in consumer sentiment. A more upbeat assessment of the economy from the Federal Reserve also wasn't enough to stoke buying.

For the week, the Dow Jones industrials fell 1.6 percent, the Standard & Poor's 500 index lost 2.2 percent and the Nasdaq composite index slid 2 percent.

Though the Fed kept its benchmark interest rate at a record low of near zero, and signaled that it plans to keep rates low for some time, the central bank is starting to wind down other stimulus programs. The Fed plans to slow its purchases of mortgage-backed securities and also reduce two emergency lending programs. A first-time home buyer's credit is set to expire in November.

Investors are worried that the economy's nascent recovery could falter without continued government support.

"It's quite clear that some of these stimulus programs have had a favorable impact on the economy," said Ward McCarthy, chief financial economist at Jefferies & Co. That could "create the potential

for some disappointment in the months ahead when these stimulus programs expire."

The market has been on a fairly steady climb higher since hitting 12-year lows in early March. With the Standard & Poor's 500 index up 54.4 percent since then, many analysts have been warning that the market will inevitably retreat, and perhaps see more selling than the periodic pullbacks like the drop stocks suffered in June.

What may ultimately lift the market is the fact many investors are still not in the market and may want to get in for fear of missing another rally.

"On the bullish side, we have all this cash and people looking to get in on the dips, but on the bearish side, this market

has run so much ahead of the fundamentals," said Tyler Vernon, portfolio manager at Princeton, N.J.-based investment management firm Biltmore Capital Advisors.

Analysts say last week's decline doesn't necessarily mean the market's sentiment has changed. If anything, investors have come to accept that some of the economic data, especially on the labor front, will be weak for the foreseeable future.

The number of people who lost their jobs in August slowed from the previous month, but the unemployment rate swelled to 9.7 percent, the highest level since June 1983. Many analysts are expecting the unemployment rate to climb to at least 10 percent by the end of this year. □



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In this TV publicity image released by Fox, character Homer Simpson, dressed as a comic book character Everyman, left, is shown with celebrity fitness trainer 'Lyle McCarthy, voiced by Seth Rogen on the animated series, 'The Simpsons.'

(AP Photo/Fox)

Seth Rogen gets dream role: 'Simpsons' writer

By LYNN ELBER,
AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES – Seth Rogen has fulfilled a dream, and he's not talking about starring in the box-office hit "Knocked Up" or playing a superhero in the upcoming "The Green Hornet." Rogen co-wrote an episode of "The Simpsons" and lends his voice to a character in the episode that airs 8 p.m. EDT Sunday, kicking off the Fox show's 21st season. He's only the second visiting celebrity to both write and act, following in the 2006 footsteps of Ricky Gervais.

"As a writer, it always just seemed like the Holy Grail," Rogen said of the animated series. "I can die a happy man now."

The episode, by Rogen and writing partner Evan Goldberg in collaboration with the show's writers, plays off the actor's pre-filming fitness regimen for "Green Hornet." The movie is in production and set for release in 2010.

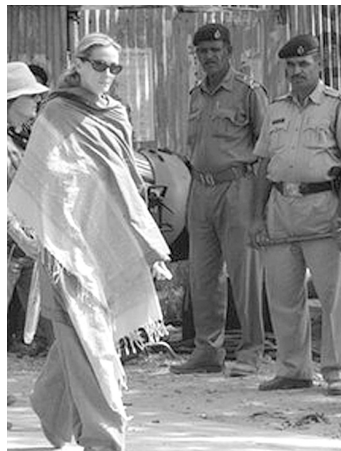
In "Homer the Whopper," Rogen plays a trainer assigned to get Homer Simpson in superhero shape to play Everyman, a hero created by Comic Book Guy and played by the rotund couch potato. "We wanted to comment on how Hollywood generally ruins these movies. The whole joke is Homer is cast to play a guy who's an everyman and they try to make him into this physically fit guy," Rogen said.

Recording with the cast was "one of the highlights of my life," said the seriously devoted "Simpsons" fan (favorite episodes include "Itchy & Scratchy Land" and the one in which Bart sells his soul to Milhouse).

"It was completely surreal. I was just in shock afterward. I felt like I had gone skydiving or survived an earthquake," Rogen said. Other celebrities to be heard on "The Simpsons" this season include Sarah Silverman, Angela Bassett, Eli Manning and Bob Costas.

As for Rogen's part in "Green Hornet," he's still processing his on-screen switch from lovable schlub to dapper leading man. He and Goldberg wrote the screenplay. □

Tight security at Julia Roberts film set in India



Indian policemen look on as Hollywood actress Julia Roberts walks towards the sets of her film 'Eat, Pray, Love' at Mirzapur village 65 kilometers (41 miles) south of New Delhi, India, Sunday, Sept. 27, 2009.

(AP Photo/Mustafa Quraishi)

By SWETA PRIYA,
Associated Press Writer
MIRZAPUR, India – Young boys climbed trees and villagers crowded rooftops in a tiny dusty village in northern India Sunday to catch a glimpse of Academy Award winner Julia Roberts shooting her new film, "Eat, Pray, Love." Scores of policemen, armed with bamboo sticks, private guards and plainclothes security guards kept curious visitors at bay as the "Pretty Woman" star walked about the sets created at Mirzapur village, 65 kilometers (40 miles) south of the Indian capital, New Delhi. Huge black screens protected the sets from television crews and photographers. Roberts was dressed in a turquoise blue tunic and loose pajamas, the traditional clothes worn by millions of Indian women. In the film, she plays the part of an American woman who leaves behind a troubled marriage and sets out on a journey of self-discovery. Newspapers and television stations in India have been covering Roberts' every move since she arrived in India accompanied by her three children nearly 10 days ago. Security has been tight with nearly 350 local policemen and security officers guarding the star in the village and in the nearby small town of Pataudi, where Roberts is staying at a former palace converted into a heritage hotel. □



Polish director Roman Polanski attends a news conference for the film "Chacun son Cinema" at the 60th Cannes Film Festival in this May 20, 2007 file photo.

REUTERS/Jean-Paul Pelissier/Files

Movie-maker Polanski arrested in Switzerland

By Jason Rhodes

ZURICH (Reuters) – Director Roman Polanski, whose turbulent life has on occasion come close to resembling the violent, perverse world of his movies, was arrested in Zurich on a 1978 U.S. arrest warrant for sex with a 13-year-old.

Polanski, 76, had been due to receive a prize for his life's work at the Zurich Film Festival Sunday evening, opening a retrospective of his distinguished film career but was arrested after arriving in Switzerland Saturday night.

Calling Polanski, who won Best Director Oscar for "The Pianist" in 2003, one of the greatest film directors of our time, festival organizers said they had "received this news with great consternation and shock."

French Culture Minister Frederic Mitterrand was "stunned" to hear about Polanski's arrest, his office said, adding President Nicolas Sarkozy was following the case and hoped the matter could be resolved allowing Polanski to return to his family.

"We are going to try to lift the arrest warrant in Zurich ... the (extradition) convention between Switzerland and the United States is not very clear," Polanski's lawyer, Georges Kiejman, told France Info radio.

Zurich Cantonal Police spokesman Stefan Oberlin said the arrest of Polanski, who holds French citizenship, was carried out on instruction from the Federal Justice Department in Berne. Polanski was arrested in the United States in the late 1970s and charged with giving drugs and alcohol to a 13-year-old girl and having unlawful sex with her at a photographic shoot at Jack Nicholson's Hollywood home.

Maintaining the girl was sexually experienced and had consented, Polanski spent 42 days in prison undergoing psychiatric tests but fled the country before being sentenced.

Considered by U.S. authorities as a fugitive from justice, Polanski, whose films include "Rosemary's Baby" and "Chinatown," has lived in France, avoiding countries that have extradition treaties with the United States.

"Both the extradition arrest warrant and any extradition decision can be challenged in the Federal Penal Court," the Swiss Federal Justice Department said, adding these decisions could in turn be taken further to Switzerland's Federal Court of Justice.

Few lives have turned into the macabre public spectacle that Polanski's has, first after the gruesome murder of his pregnant wife Sharon Tate in 1969 by the Charles Manson murder gang, and again eight years later when he was arrested for the statutory rape of the 13-year-old girl.

FANTASIES AND FEARS

But few directors have laid bare their inner fantasies and fears like Polanski in films such as "Repulsion," "Rosemary's Baby" and "The Tenant" -- films of disturbing brutality shot through with voyeurism and dark humor.

From early childhood when he escaped the Nazi holocaust in Poland, Polanski's life has appeared, like his movies, to hover precariously on the brink of tragedy. □

The French Steakhouse delivers dining under the stars

Eagle Beach – The French Steakhouse at the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa just added another charming dining option, a tropical outdoor courtyard, featuring delicious cuisine under the stars.

The famed French Steakhouse prides itself on the elegant dining experience it offers patrons in the fully air-conditioned dining room. Yet recently the idea of adding a garden spot to the existing blueprint began to sprout in the creative mind of Executive Chef George Hoek, and he immediately recruited

the landscapers to create the intimate, lovely setting.

The French Steakhouse Ooh-La-La menu is now served indoor and alfresco, featuring creative appetizers, soups, salads, seafood dishes, poultry and the Pièce de Résistance South American & USDA Beef specialties.

Among popular appetizers the chef's Tropical Crab Cakes with pineapple & mango salsa and the Teriyaki Glazed Seared Duck Breast, served with garden greens and balsamic dressing are real crowd pleasers.



True to the restaurant's French roots, the Onion Soup is a classic, while the Honey Glazed Salmon Salad winks at the exotic East with a sweet soy dressing.

The menu features a great variety of seafood dishes from fresh fish to the totally sinful and amazingly-decadent Caribbean Stuffed Shrimp with Crabmeat and Bacon, which became an instant hit. The tequila and sweet chili glaze, lends the Jumbo shrimp a pure taste of heaven!

The French Steakhouse is naturally famous for the South American Churrasco steak, a signature preparation, which now shares the stage with juicy USDA beef specialties such as NY Sirloin and Filet Mignon. Light-eaters will find the Jerk Chicken Skewers and the Lemon Herb Broilers very satisfying.

Open seven days a week from 5:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. the French Steakhouse is blessed with the nicest staff and a delightfully renovated dining

room with sparkling China, crisp linen, an interesting bread basket, colossal desserts and live jazz on piano with Eddy Samson who is Aruba's best entertainer, and a walking & breathing music encyclopedia, just whistle the tune, and Eddy will produce a symphonic version of your favorite song.

Hungry patrons will appreciate the Ambassador's 5-course menu featuring the run of the menu highlights for just \$34.95 per person. www.manchebo.com/steakhouse



Giorgio's Ristorante Italiano introduces Menu Turistico



Eagle Beach -- Giorgio's Ristorante Italiano located at the heart of the low-rise hotels at the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa, delivers authentic Mediterranean flavors, at a reasonable price. The restaurant has just introduced Menu Turistico a three-course dinner featuring appetizers, main courses and desserts for just \$19.95, per person, plus 15% service charge.

Patrons may choose between home made soup and Caesar salad, Fettuccini Alfredo, Lasagna Casarecia, Spaghetti alla Bolognese or any favorite pizza with Tiramisu, Cheese Cake or Ice Cream for the sweet finale.

Posing with Angelo the Italian maitre D' at Giorgio's, Mr and Mrs. Klaus, from Pennsylvania, 2nd time repeaters in Aruba at the Manchebo, the trip was a birthday present from him to her and since they are celebrating their 40th anniversary in November, they are already thinking about coming back, they enjoyed Menu Turistico and recommend it wholeheartedly! □

Pega Pega Café & Beach Bar reinvents Beach Cuisine



Eagle Beach – Pega Pega Café & Beach Bar at the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa deserves recognition as the home of Beach Cuisine.

Executive Chef George Hoek and his culinary team serve a Sun Splashed menu on the ocean front terrace,

raising the bar to a must-visit, must-try status.

The contemporary menu, lists many favorite dishes from around the world, borrowing inspiration from US, Mexican, Thai, Jamaican, Cuban, Greek and Mediterranean kitchens, all served with a tropical, Caribbean flair.

From Sun-Sational Salads, to Cuban pressed jawbreakers and wraps, mid-day platters also include oversize Beef Burgers, Philly Cheese Steak Sandwiches and Hot Dogs.

The Pega Pega tropical &

frozen cocktail list, with fresh fruit or ice cream smoothies, daiquiris, coladas and margaritas, leaves nothing out, including Yellow Birds, Sex on the Beach and Mudslides, making a lunch-time brain-freeze, extremely easy to get!

The Pega Pega, one of Aruba's oldest beach bars is open on fabulous Eagle Beach, with unrivaled views, caring, gracious service, and relaxed atmosphere, from 12 noon to 5 p.m. The bar opens at 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. □



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with granite counter tops and a full stainless steel appliance package including washer and dryer. This 35-condominium complex will feature a beautiful swimming pool with a beach style entry with waterfalls and fountain and state of the art fiber optic lighting. The entrance of the building has a drive-up covered entrance and an elegant two-story lobby leading to the sun-filled hallways and corridors. The common area will facilitate the owners with a well-equipped gym overlooking the gardens and the pool.

The garden will feel like an oasis true to the projects name. There will also be a recreation room and sofas throughout the common area to lounge and relax. Further amenities include a 24/7 security, a full concierge and a rental program for the owners who want to earn a return on their investment. The concierge service will be helpful to assist the owners in making their 'homecoming' a very pleasant return. Each condo will have one designated parking space exclusive to the owners. Construction on Oasis at Eagle

Beach is moving fast. Fifteen of the thirty five units have already been sold. The condominiums will be ready for occupancy by March 2010. Oasis is located on Eagle Beach which allows for an easy access, even on foot, to the best casinos, restaurants, golf courses, shopping areas and night life the Aruba has to offer. The experienced sales team of Oasis invites you for a visit to learn about this new gem on the beach.

The site tour will take you up in the complex where you will enjoy spectacular views of the ocean and beach as well as a wonderful view of Oranjestad where the cruise ships are docked. The views from the rooftop terrace are stunning to say the least. The Oasis sales team is ready to assist you.

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Experience Papillon's gripping story! Introducing a catching special for the early Birds

PALM BEACH - Henri Charrière, one of the world's most famous prisoners, would surely have had the time of his life at Papillon Restaurant in The Village, across from the Radisson Resort. Nicknamed Papillon because of the butterfly tattoo on his chest, the Frenchman was the first convict to escape from Devil's Island, something that nobody had ever done before. Charrière's thrilling, gripping...

auto-biography has been the concept behind Papillon Restaurant. The décor, the decorations and especially the restrooms wink at the thirteen terrible years Papillon spent in prison in French Guyana. Papillon restaurant's menu reflects the Frenchman's arduous journey to freedom: classic French dishes have been dusted with daring Caribbean flair and are a culinary journey for your taste buds. The spacious outside terrace is perfect for casual fine dining; the iron bars, flecks of rust and stains on the walls make one very glad not to be in Papillon's shoes in the 1940's! Charrière would undoubtedly have loved 'his' place on Aruba: this is luxury living for anyone!

Early Bird

Papillon Restaurant offers a daily Early Bird special. A delicious 3-course meal with a glass of house wine for just \$29.75 per person between 5pm and 7pm

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Papillon's opening hours are from 5 pm until midnight. The restaurant's daily specials will be explained by the staff. For reservations, please call 586 5400 or go to www.papillonaruba.com.

Papillon Restaurant is located in The Village, just across from the Radisson Resort.

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In this photo released by the Iranian semi-official Mehr News Agency, Revolutionary Guard's Zelzal missile is launched in a drill, Sunday Sept. 27, 2009, near the city of Qom, 80 miles (130 kilometers) south of Tehran, Iran. Iran said it successfully test-fired short-range missiles during military drills Sunday by the elite Revolutionary Guard, a show of force days after the U.S. warned Tehran over a newly revealed underground nuclear facility it was secretly constructing.

(AP Photo/Mehr News Agency, Raouf Mohseni)

Under pressure for nukes, Iran test fires missiles

By NASSER KARIMI,
Associated Press Writer

TEHRAN – Iran's powerful Revolutionary Guard said it successfully test-fired short-range missiles Sunday in drills meant to show Tehran is prepared to crush any military threat from another country.

The display of force comes days after the U.S. and its allies warned Iran over a newly revealed nuclear facility it was secretly constructing.

Gen. Hossein Salami, head of the Revolutionary Guard Air Force, said Iran had perfected its short range missiles to make them more accurate in tactical battlefield situations and defend the country from any attacks.

"We are going to respond to any military

action in a crushing manner and it doesn't make any difference which country or regime has launched the aggression," state media quoted Salami as saying. He said the missiles successfully hit their targets.

The tests came two days after the U.S. and its allies disclosed that Iran had been secretly developing a previously unknown underground uranium enrichment facility and warned the country it must open the nuclear site to international inspection or face harsher international sanctions.

The missiles tested weren't the kind that can carry a nuclear warhead.

Iran is developing such ballistic missiles, but the U.S. believes that effort has been slowed.

Continued on Page B6

Attorney: OKC bombing tapes appear edited

See Next Page

William Safire, speechwriter, NY columnist, dies



U.S. President George W. Bush (R) honors William Safire as one of the 2006 recipients of the Presidential Medal of Freedom in the East Room of the White House in Washington, December 15, 2006.

REUTERS/Larry Downing

By DEEPTI HAJELA,
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK – William Safire, the conservative columnist and word warrior who feared no politician or corner of the English language, died Sunday at age 79.

Continued on Page B3



Soldiers stand guard at a blockade as supporters of Honduras' ousted President Manuel Zelaya rally near the Brazilian embassy in Tegucigalpa September 26, 2009. The U.N. Security Council condemned on Friday "acts of intimidation" at Brazil's embassy in Honduras, but said the Organization of American States should continue to take the lead on talks to reinstate ousted President Zelaya.

REUTERS/Henry Romero

Honduras sets 10-day deadline on embassy standoff

By MARK STEVENSON,
Associated Press Writer

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras – Honduras' interim government gave Brazil a 10-day ultimatum on Sunday to decide what to do with ousted President Manuel Zelaya, who took refuge in the Brazilian Embassy after sneaking back into this Central American nation.

Continued on Page B9

Attorney: OKC bombing tapes appear edited



By TIM TALLEY,
Associated Press Writer
OKLAHOMA CITY—Long-secret security tapes showing the chaos immediately after the 1995 bombing of the Oklahoma City federal building are blank in the minutes before the blast and appear to have been edited, an attorney who obtained the recordings said Sunday. “The real story is what’s missing,” said Jesse Trentadue, a Salt Lake City attorney who obtained the recordings through the federal Freedom of Information Act as part of an unofficial

inquiry he is conducting into the April 19, 1995, bombing that killed 168 people and injured hundreds more. Trentadue gave copies of the tapes to The Oklahoman newspaper, which posted them online and provided copies to The Associated Press. The tapes turned over by the FBI came from security cameras various companies had mounted outside office buildings near the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building. They are blank at points before 9:02 a.m., when a truck bomb carrying a 4,000

pound fertilizer-and-fuel-oil bomb detonated in front of the building, Trentadue said. “Four cameras in four different locations going blank at basically the same time on the morning of April 19, 1995. There ain’t no such thing as a coincidence,” Trentadue said. He said government officials claim the security cameras did not record the minutes before the bombing because “they had run out of tape” or “the tape was being replaced.” “The interesting thing is they spring back on after 9:02,” he said. “The absence of footage from these crucial time intervals is evidence that there is something there that the FBI doesn’t want anybody to see.” A spokesman for the FBI in Oklahoma City, Gary Johnson, declined to comment and referred inquiries about the tapes to FBI officials in Washington, who were not immediately available for comment Sunday. The soundless recordings

show people rushing from nearby buildings after the bomb went off. Some show people fleeing through corridors cluttered with debris. None show the actual explosion that ripped through the federal building. FBI agents did not report finding any security tapes from the federal building itself. The FBI in the past refused to release the security camera recordings, leading Trentadue and others to contend the government was hiding evidence that others were involved in the attack. “It’s taken a lawsuit and years to get the tapes,” Trentadue said. He received the latest batch of tapes over the summer in response to an April request for video from security cameras in 11 different locations. Nothing on the tapes was unexpected. “The more important thing they show is what they don’t show,” Trentadue said. “These cameras would have shown the various roads and

approaches to the Murrah Building.” Trentadue began looking into the bombing after his brother, Kenneth Trentadue, died at the Oklahoma City Federal Transfer Center in August 1995. Kenneth Trentadue was a convicted bank robber who was held at the federal prison after being picked up as a parole violator at his home in San Diego in June 1995. He was never a bombing suspect, but Jesse Trentadue alleges guards mistook his brother for one and beat him to death during an interrogation. The official cause of Kenneth Trentadue’s death is listed as suicide, but his body had 41 wounds and bruises that Jesse Trentadue believes could have come only from a beating. A judge in 2001 awarded Kenneth Trentadue’s family \$1.1 million for extreme emotional distress in the government’s handling of his death. Jesse Trentadue said he has received about 30 security tapes, including some images that were used as evidence at bomber Timothy McVeigh’s trial. McVeigh was convicted on federal murder and conspiracy charges and executed in 2001. Coconspirator Terry Nichols is serving life in prison on federal and state bombing convictions. Trentadue said he is seeking more tapes along with a variety of bombing-related documents from the FBI and the CIA. An FOIA request by Trentadue for 26 CIA documents was rejected in June. A letter from the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, which reviewed the documents, said their release “could cause grave damage to our national security.” Trentadue said he gave the latest set of tapes to The Oklahoman because of their historical value. The newspaper has agreed to provide copies to the Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum. □

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SAFIRE

Continued from Page B1

The Pulitzer Prize winner died in Maryland, his assistant Rosemary Shields said. He had been diagnosed with cancer, but she declined to say when that had happened or what type of cancer he had. Safire spent more than 30 years writing on the Op-Ed page of The New York Times. In his "On Language" column in The New York Times Magazine and more than a dozen books, Safire traced the origins of words and everyday phrases such as "straw-man," "under the bus" and "the proof is in the pudding."

New York Times Co. Chairman Arthur Sulzberger Jr. said in a statement: "For decades, Bill's columns on The Times's Op-Ed Page and in our Sunday Magazine delighted our readers with his insightful political commentary, his thoughtful analysis of our national discourse and, of course, his wonderful sermons on the use and abuse of language. Bill will be greatly missed." Safire penned more than 3,000 columns, aggressively defending civil liberties and Israel while tangling with political figures. Bill Clinton famously wanted to punch the curmudgeonly columnist in the nose after Safire called his wife "a congenital liar." Shields said: "Not only was he brilliant in language and assessing the nuances of politics, he was a kind and funny boss who gave lots of credit to others."

As a speechwriter in the Nixon White House, Safire penned Vice President Spiro Agnew's

famous phrase, "nattering nabobs of negativism," a tongue-in-cheek alliteration that Safire claimed was directed not at the press but at Vietnam defeatists.

Safire also wrote several novels and served as chairman of the Dana Foundation, a philanthropy that supports brain science, immunology and arts education.

Along with George Will and William F. Buckley Jr., Safire's smooth prose helped make conservatism respectable in the 1970s, paving the way for the Reagan Revolution.

Safire was a pioneer of opinionated reporting. His columns were often filled with sources from Washington and the Middle East, making them must-reads for Beltway insiders.

Author Eric Alterman, in his 1999 book "Sound and Fury: The Making of the Punditocracy," called Safire an institution unto himself.

"Few insiders doubt that William Safire is the most influential and respected pundit alive," Alterman wrote.

Safire's scathing columns on the Carter White House budget director Bert Lance's financial affairs won him the Pulitzer Prize for commentary in 1978; in 1995 Safire was named to the Pulitzer board.

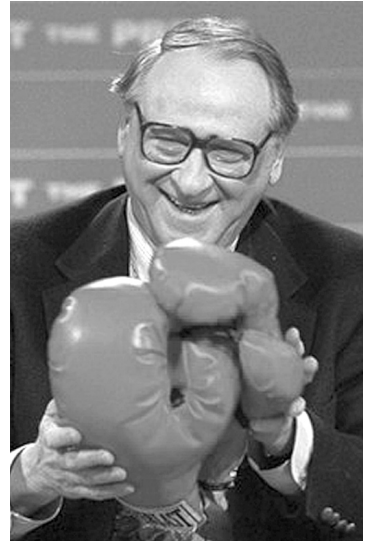
Critics said Safire made loose accusations trumpeting various "scandals" by the Clintons that were never borne out by the facts. "Like a pioneering blogger, Safire years ago started grabbing bits of information and wrapping them in the tightest partisan, what-if spin possible," Eric Boehlert wrote in the Web site Salon in 2004. "When the accusation unraveled, he'd simply ignore the thud of his charges hitting the floor."

From 2001 to 2003, Safire also published several columns pressing the case that Saddam Hussein was linked

to the Sept. 11 attacks, calling it an "undisputed fact" that hijacker Mohamed Atta met with a senior Iraqi intelligence official in Prague in April 2001. The 9/11 commission said that meeting never happened.

Safire's pun-filled "On Language" column exploring the foibles and abuses of the English language was far less controversial, winning him more admirers across the political spectrum.

Safire lived in the Washington suburb of Chevy Chase, Md., with his wife, Helene, a British-born jewelry designer; they had a son and a daughter. Safire, born Dec. 17, 1929, to a Jewish family in New York City, was the youngest of three boys. He attended Syracuse University but dropped out after two years to work as a legman for a Republican political strategist and publicist Tex McCrary, who had a column in the New York Herald Tribune. □



FILE - In this Jan. 14, 1996 file photo, New York Times columnist William Safire holds up a pair of boxing gloves in this file photo taken in Washington. Pulitzer Prize-winning conservative columnist, language expert and former White House speechwriter William Safire has died. He was 79. His assistant Rosemary Shields says Safire died Sunday, Sept. 27, 2009 at a Maryland hospice. She says he had been diagnosed with cancer.

(AP Photo/Mark Wilson, File)



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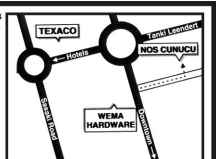
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More school: Obama would curtail summer vacation



Seventh grade students at Edwards Middle School work on guinea-pig heart during their science class Thursday, June 18, 2009, in the Charlestown neighborhood of Boston.

(AP Photo/Bizuayehu Tesfaye)

By LIBBY QUAID,
AP Education Writer

WASHINGTON — Students beware: The summer vacation you just enjoyed could be sharply curtailed if President Barack Obama gets his way. Obama says American kids spend too little time in school, putting them at a disadvantage with other students around the globe.

“Now, I know longer school days and school years are not wildly popular ideas,” the president said earlier this year. “Not with Malia and Sasha, not in my family, and probably not in yours. But the challenges of

a new century demand more time in the classroom.”

The president, who has a sixth-grader and a third-grader, wants schools to add time to classes, to stay open late and to let kids in on weekends so they have a safe place to go.

“Our school calendar is based upon the agrarian economy and not too many of our kids are working the fields today,” Education Secretary Arne Duncan said in a recent interview with The Associated Press.

Fifth-grader Nakany Camara is of two minds. She likes the four-week summer program

at her school, Brookhaven Elementary School in Rockville, Md. Nakany enjoys seeing her friends there and thinks summer school helped boost her grades from two Cs to the honor roll.

But she doesn’t want a longer school day. “I would walk straight out the door,” she said.

Domonique Toombs felt the same way when she learned she would stay for an extra three hours each day in sixth grade at Boston’s Clarence R. Edwards Middle School.

“I was like, ‘Wow, are you serious?’” she said. “That’s three more hours I won’t be able to chill with my friends after school.”

Her school is part of a 3-year-old state initiative to add 300 hours of school time in nearly two dozen schools. Early results are positive. Even reluctant Domonique, who just started ninth grade, feels differently now. “I’ve learned a lot,” she said.

Does Obama want every kid to do these things? School until dinnertime? Summer school? And what about the idea that kids today are overscheduled and need more time to play?

Obama and Duncan say kids in the United States need more school because kids in other nations have more school.

“Young people in other countries are going to school 25, 30 percent longer than our students here,” Duncan told the AP. “I want to just level the playing field.”

While it is true that kids in many other countries have more school days, it’s not true they all spend more time in school.

Kids in the U.S. spend more hours in school (1,146 instructional hours per year) than do kids in the Asian countries that persistently outscore the U.S. on math and science tests — Singapore (903), Taiwan (1,050), Japan (1,005) and Hong Kong (1,013). That is despite the fact that Taiwan, Japan and Hong Kong have longer school years (190 to 201 days) than does the U.S. (180 days).

Regardless, there is a strong case for adding time to the school day.

Researcher Tom Loveless of the Brookings Institution looked at math scores in countries that added math instruction time. Scores rose significantly, especially in countries that added minutes to the day, rather than days to the year.

“Ten minutes sounds trivial to a school day, but don’t forget, these math periods in the U.S. average 45 minutes,” Loveless said. “Percentage-wise, that’s a pretty healthy increase.”

In the U.S., there are many examples of gains when time is added to the school day.

Charter schools are known for having longer school days or weeks or years. For example, kids in the KIPP network of 82 charter schools across the country go to school from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., more than three

hours longer than the typical day. They go to school every other Saturday and for three weeks in the summer. KIPP eighth-grade classes exceed their school district averages on state tests.

In Massachusetts’ expanded learning time initiative, early results indicate that kids in some schools do better on state tests than do kids at regular public schools. The extra time, which schools can add as hours or days, is for three things: core academics — kids struggling in English, for example, get an extra English class; more time for teachers; and enrichment time for kids.

Regular public schools are adding time, too, though it is optional and not usually part of the regular school day. Their calendar is pretty much set in stone. Most states set the minimum number of school days at 180 days, though a few require 175 to 179 days. Several schools are going year-round by shortening summer vacation and lengthening other breaks.

Many schools are going beyond the traditional summer school model, in which schools give remedial help to kids who flunked or fell behind.

Summer is a crucial time for kids, especially poorer kids, because poverty is linked to problems that interfere with learning, such as hunger and less involvement by their parents.

That makes poor children almost totally dependent on their learning experience at school, said Karl Alexander, a sociology professor at Baltimore’s Johns Hopkins University, home of the National Center for Summer Learning.

Disadvantaged kids, on the whole, make no progress in the summer, Alexander said. Some studies suggest they actually fall back. Wealthier kids have parents who read to them, have strong language skills and go to great lengths to give them learning opportunities such as computers, summer camp, vacations, music lessons, or playing on sports teams. □



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What's ugly, smells, kills dogs? Blue-green algae

By ROBERT IMRIE,
Associated Press Writer
WAUSAU, Wis. — Waterways across the upper Midwest are increasingly plagued with ugly, smelly and potentially deadly blue-green algae, bloomed by drought and fertilizer runoffs from farm fields, that's killed dozens of dogs and sickened many people.

Aquatic biologists say it's a problem that falls somewhere between a human health concern and a nuisance, but will eventually lead to more human poisoning. State officials are telling people who live on algae-covered lakes to close their windows, stop taking walks along the picturesque shorelines and keep their dogs from drinking the rank water.

Peggy McAloon, 62, lives on Wisconsin's Tainter Lake and calls the algae blooms the "cockroach on the water."

"It is like living in the sewer for three weeks. You gag. You cannot go outside," she said. "We have pictures of squirrels that are dead underneath the scum and fish that are dead. ... It has gotten out of control because of the nutrient loads we as humans are adding to the waters."

Blue-green algae are common in waters but not every lake develops serious problems until plentiful "man-induced" nutrients like phosphorous arrive, said Jim Vennie, a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources expert. The toxins released by the algae can be deadly. Symptoms include rash, hives, runny nose, irritated eyes and throat irritation.

No people have died in the U.S. from the algae's toxins, according to Wayne Carmichael, a retired aquatic biologist and toxicology professor in Oregon.

Many, however, have gotten sick: "Sooner or later, we are going to have more acute human poisoning," Carmichael said.

The scum has killed dozens of dogs over the years — including at least four in Oregon, three in Wisconsin and one in Minnesota this summer. Wisconsin wildlife experts are warning duck

hunters with dogs to be extra cautious this fall. "If the water is pea-soup green, be sure to have clean water along to wash the dog off," Vennie said. "Don't let it drink the water."

Fewer than 100 lakes in Wisconsin typically have some problems with algae bloom each summer and the ones in western Wisconsin causing so much discomfort this year are being fueled by a perfect storm, Vennie said. The last month has seen little rain, warm, sunny days and little wind.

The blooms just sit there, growing, then decaying and smelling.

"Some people say they have gotten nauseous and vomited from smelling it," said Ken Schreiber, a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources water quality specialist.

Officials have banned recreational activities at some lakes in Washington state because of blooms. And in Oregon, the blue-green algae is the number one water quality issue, Carmichael said.

Yet other countries have worse problems, Carmichael said, because many have waters with even more nutrients than exist in U.S. lakes.

In France, a horse died on a beach in July after falling into some decaying algae sludge. Last year, the Chinese government brought in the army to remove the slimy growths so the Olympic sailing competition could be



This photo provided by John Kuglin shows some green algae on Thursday, Sept. 3, 2009, on Lake Pokegama near Chetek, Wis. Waterways across the upper Midwest are increasingly plagued with ugly, smelly and potentially deadly blue-green algae, bloomed by drought and fertilizer runoffs from farm fields, that's killed dozens of dogs and sickened many people.

(AP Photo/John Kuglin)

held.

Stephanie Marquis, a spokesman for the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, said her agency had received 41 complaints related to health concerns with blue-green algae so far this season. Rashes, sore throats and eye irritation among the problems, she said.

In Minnesota, Matt Lindon is a pollution control specialist for the state and he called 2009 a typical year for complaints about algae scums. But for some reason this summer, Bagley Lake in northwest Minnesota, an "historically clean lake," generated respiratory and odor problems,

he said. "It may be related to the water level or some new runoff source," he said.

Loren Hake, 71, has lived about two blocks from a Lake Menomin in western Wisconsin since 1963.

He feels like a prisoner in his own home, isolated by a stench "something like a pig pen" that forces he and his wife to run the air conditioner although it's not that hot because they can't leave the windows open, he said. For the first time, the couple hasn't set on an outside deck because of the smell from the algae-covered bay.

"I don't know what they can do about it," Hake said.

There's little anybody can do besides wait for cooler temperatures, Vennie said.

John Plaza, president of the Chetek Lakes Protection Association, which represents six lakes in northwest Wisconsin, said farm runoff, lawn fertilizers, septic systems and even ashes from leaves being burned on the shorelines are among factors contributing to the algae problems.

"I have been a user of these lakes since 1962," he said. "I have never experienced anything like this before. It's nasty. People are saying we can't live with this any more." □

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In this photo released by the Iranian semi-official Fars News Agency, Revolutionary Guard's Fateh missile is launched in a drill near the city of Qom, 80 miles (130 kilometers) south of the capital Tehran, Iran, Sunday, Sept. 27, 2009. Iran said it successfully test-fired short-range missiles during military drills Sunday by the elite Revolutionary Guard, a show of force days after the U.S. warned Tehran over a newly revealed underground nuclear facility it was secretly constructing.

(AP Photo/Fars News Agency, Ali Shaigan)

convince the U.S. and other world powers at the upcoming meeting that its nuclear program is for peaceful purposes, putting Tehran on a course for tougher economic penalties beyond the current "leaky sanctions."

The Iranians must "present convincing evidence as to the purpose of their nuclear program. We don't believe that they can present convincing evidence, that it's only for peaceful purposes, but we are going to put them to the test," Clinton told CBS' "Face the Nation."

Defense Secretary Robert Gates arguing that pressuring Tehran economically and diplomatically would have a better chance of changing the Tehran government's policies than military strikes against the nuclear site.

"The reality is, there is no military option that does anything more than buy time," he told CNN's "State of the Union" in an interview broadcast Sunday.

The nuclear site was revealed in the arid mountains near the holy city of Qom is believed to be inside a heavily guarded, underground facility belonging to the Revolutionary Guard, according to a document sent by President Barack Obama's administration to lawmakers.

After the strong condemnations from the U.S. and its allies, Iran said Saturday it will allow U.N. nuclear inspectors to examine the site.

Israel has trumpeted the latest discoveries as proof of its long-held assertion that Iran is seeking nuclear

weapons.

"The revelation of the secret Iranian facility also demonstrates to even the most skeptical people the evil intentions of Iran," said Danny Ayalon, Israel's deputy foreign minister.

"The Iran's ongoing military maneuvers including the last one and all their missile tests are a huge challenge to the international community," he added in an interview with Israel's Channel 10 Sunday.

By U.S. estimates, Iran is one to five years away from having nuclear weapons capability, although U.S. intelligence also believes that Iranian leaders have not yet made the decision to build a weapon.

Iran also is developing ballistic missiles that could carry a nuclear warhead, but the administration said last week that it believes that effort has been slowed. That assessment paved the way for Obama's decision to shelve the Bush administration's plan for a missile shield in Europe, which was aimed at defending against Iranian ballistic missiles.

Salami said Iran would test medium-range Shahab-1 and Shahab-2 missiles on Sunday night and a longer-range Shahab-3 missiles on Monday, during drills set to last several days.

Iran's last known missile tests were in May when it fired its longest-range solid-fuel missile, Sajjil-2. Tehran said the two-stage surface-to-surface missile has a range of about 1,200 miles (1,900 kilometers) — capable of striking Israel, U.S. Mideast bases and southeastern Europe. □

MISSLIE

Continued from Page B1

But the timing of the missile tests has been widely interpreted as an Iranian show of force in the face of the international storm of criticism over the secret facility.

Tehran carried out the missile tests now "to show some muscle, show some strength, and say the game is not over for Iran yet," said Alex Vatanka, a senior middle east analyst at IHS Jane's. He noted that Iran will be meeting with the Western powers in Geneva next week.

"They felt going into these meetings next week that they needed to have something else to bolster their position, and I think that Iran's Revolutionary Guard showing a bit of military muscle here is part of that," he said.

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said she doesn't believe Iran can



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R	JENNIFER'S BODY					
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		matinee:	1:00	late show:	12:15	
PG-13	TYLER PERRY'S I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF					
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		matinee:		late show:	12:00	
R	FINAL DESTINATION 4					3D
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PG-13	TYLER PERRY'S I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF					
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R	THE TIME TRAVELER'S WIFE					
		daily:	4:00	6:30	9:00	
		matinee:	1:45	late show:	11:30	
PG-13	G.I. JOE: THE RISE OF THE COBRA					
		daily:	6:00	8:45		
		matinee:	12:30	late show:	11:15	
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"FAVI FUNDACION CU VISION"

Suspect arrested in Iraqi taekwondo team murders

By CHELSEA J. CARTER,
Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD — Iraqi commandos and U.S. forces have arrested a suspect in the 2006 kidnapping and murder of an Iraqi taekwondo team whose highway ambush became one of the symbols of Iraq's lawlessness during its worse years of sectarian violence.

The U.S. military announced the arrest in a statement Sunday, but did not say when it took place or identify the suspect. The Iraqi military did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Athletes and sports officials were frequent targets of threats, kidnappings and assassination attempts at the height of the civil strife in 2006 and 2007. Sportsmen were targeted for ransom or as victims of the sectarian violence.

The military statement said Iraqi forces working with American military advisers captured the suspect in Anbar province, a one-time Sunni insurgent stronghold west of the capital.

The taekwondo team was driving to a training camp in neighboring Jordan in May 2006, when their convoy was stopped on the highway in Anbar between Fallujah and Ramadi, about 70 miles (115 kilometers) west of Baghdad. All 15 athletes were abducted.

More than a year later, the remains of 13 team members — mostly skulls and bones entangled in tattered sports uniforms — were found near the main highway leading to Jordan.

News of the arrest was met with some satisfaction by family members.

"We are still overwhelmed by sadness and bitterness. But the arrest of one of the killers will bring some relief to us," said

Ali Hussein Hamid, whose cousin Ahmed Ali was among the team members killed.

Hamid said Ali had been a member of the Iraqi national team for two years when he was abducted. Ali's body was identified through the uniform he was wearing and an identification card he was carrying, he said.

Several top athletes and sports officials were kidnapped over that stretch, including the Sunni head of one of Iraq's leading soccer clubs and an Iraqi international soccer referee. A top player on the Iraqi Olympic soccer team, a national volleyball player, an Iraqi tennis coach and two of his players were also among those abducted.

Most recently, gunmen killed the coach of Iraq's national karate team, Izzat Abdullah, a 45-year-old Sunni, near his house in Mosul in June.

While insurgent violence has fallen off dramatically since 2007, crimes committed for money — from bank robbery to kidnapping for ransom — have been on the rise.

On Sunday, kidnappers freed a Christian doctor abducted the night before from her home just east of Mosul, according to a family member.

Suaad Shamoun said his cousin, Mehasin Beshir, was released after the family paid a ransom. Shamoun did not disclose the amount paid.

Iraqi police searched for Beshir after she was taken at gunpoint late Saturday from her home in a small Christian village just east of Mosul, 225 miles (360 kilometers) northwest of Baghdad, an Iraqi police official said.

The gunmen appeared to have gained access to the doctor's house, where she routinely treated people. A woman, apparently working with the kidnappers, told the doctor she was ill and dropped by

for treatment. Gunmen then stormed in behind the woman and abducted the doctor, a second security official said.

There are few official statistics on the number and kinds of kidnappings, in part because the government remains focused on the bombings and other insurgent attacks that continue to plague Baghdad and northern Iraq.

On Sunday, a suicide car bomber killed two policemen and wounded a civilian at a police checkpoint in Ramadi, west of Baghdad, a policeman said.

In nearby Fallujah, a roadside bomb struck a police patrol, killing one officer, a police official said. Five people, including three policemen, were wounded in the attack, the official said.

The officials all spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to release the information.

Meanwhile, a police commander said recaptured al-Qaida-linked prisoners do not need to be moved to the Iraqi capital as part of an investigation into their recent break out of a prison in



FILE-- in this May 19, 2006 file photograph, Maha Sa'ayd holds photos of her father Sa'ayd Al-Sayidi, who was a member of the team of 15 Iraqi taekwondo athletes who were kidnapped in western Iraq while driving to a training camp in Jordan, as she attends a meeting for families of those kidnapped in Baghdad, Iraq. The U.S. military said Sunday Sept. 27, 2009 that a suspect has been arrested for the 2006 kidnapping and murder of the Iraq National Taekwondo team in western Iraq.

(AP Photo/Karim Kadim, File)

Saddam Hussein's hometown of Tikrit.

Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki wanted the recaptured prisoners transferred to Baghdad. But provincial police commander, Maj. Gen. Hamad al-Namis, told reporters Sunday the prisoners do not need to be moved to another city because they can be sent to a new prison near

Tikrit.

Five of the 16 were al-Qaida-linked prisoners awaiting execution. At least eight of the 16, including three al-Qaida-linked prisoners, have been hunted down following the jailbreak on Wednesday.

More than 100 officials and guards at the prison have been detained for questioning in the case. □

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Chavez makes diplomatic inroads in Africa

By IAN JAMES,

Associated Press Writer

PORLAMAR, Venezuela — Hugo Chavez made diplomatic inroads in Africa on Sunday at a summit of South American and African leaders where he offered Venezuela's help in oil projects, mining and financial assistance.

The Venezuelan president and Libya's Moammar Gadhafi led about 30 leaders in agreeing to strengthen "South-South" ties at the two-day summit, which was the Libyan ruler's first visit to Latin America.

"With this summit, a new era begins in the unity of South America and Africa," Chavez said.

Venezuela signed energy cooperation accords with Mauritania, and Niger, and Chavez said his government would like to help build a refinery in or near Mauritania. He said he hopes to sign another energy accord soon with Sudan.

Venezuela also plans joint mining companies with nations including Mali, Niger and Mauritania, Chavez said, adding that "we're going to see results." He said the two regions together have enormous economic potential.

Seven South American leaders signed an agreement to create



Presidents and delegates attend the plenary session during the second day of the Africa and South America Summit ASA in Porlamar, capital of Margarita Island, Venezuela, Sunday, Sept. 27, 2009.

(AP Photo/Fernando Llano)

a regional development bank with \$20 billion in startup capital, and Chavez offered to help create a "South-South bank" with African countries in the future.

It is unclear how much investment and aid Chavez is prepared to offer in Africa since his oil-producing country is coping with a sharp drop in its revenues due to lower world crude prices.

Chavez said Venezuela signed an agreement with the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization offering agricultural assistance in Africa, from seeds to help with irrigation systems.

The summit on Venezuela's Margarita Island addressed a wide range of concerns, from hunger in Africa to the economic crisis and a

common response to climate change. It also gave Chavez an opportunity to increase his influence in Africa while criticizing U.S. and European influence in poorer nations. "There will no longer be a unipolar world," Chavez said, referring to U.S. dominance. "In the 21st century, the African Union and South America will be truly great powers."

Gadhafi called for a NATO-like defense alliance for Africa and South America as leaders agreed to link up to gain more clout as economic and political blocs.

"We have to form a NATO for the south," Gadhafi said Saturday. "And that's not a terrorist action. We have a right."

He denounced the U.N.

Security Council as an elite club where nations such as Libya have no voice, and called for the two continents to unite to demand change.

Presidents from Brazil's Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva to Zimbabwe's Robert Mugabe agreed on a need for U.N. reform, and called for unity to speak with a stronger voice.

"We're 65 countries with more than 1 billion inhabitants who want to be heard," Silva said. As for the economic crisis, the Brazilian president said, "There is no better response to the crisis than integration." Chavez blamed the economic downturn on "the countries of the North" and said the crisis reveals the failures of "speculative, plundering" capitalism.

"We have to create a new

international system, and we're doing it," the socialist president said. "The solution is in our hands. It's not in handouts from the North."

"South-South" cooperation was a buzzword at the summit, which brought together both the African Union and the South American bloc Unasur. Gadhafi, who has ruled Libya since he seized power in a 1969 coup, has sought a higher profile internationally in recent years and is currently chairman of the African Union. He met Chavez in one of his trademark Bedouin tents, set up next to the hotel pool.

Gadhafi echoed Chavez's concerns about the world's economic powers, saying through an interpreter, without naming countries, "They think the planet is divided into two parts: masters and slaves. The masters are in the North and in the South are the slaves." Zimbabwe's Mugabe criticized economic sanctions imposed against his government by the U.S. and the European Union, but said "we are going ahead" nevertheless. The European Union and other Western nations say that even though Mugabe now presides over a coalition government, not enough has been done to begin democratic reforms after years of authoritarian rule. □

HONDURAS*Continued from Page B1*

A spokesman for interim President Roberto Micheletti warned Brazilian authorities to “immediately take measures to ensure that Mr. Zelaya stops using the protection offered by the diplomatic mission to instigate violence in Honduras.”

Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva immediately rejected the missive, saying his government “doesn’t accept ultimatums from coup-plotters.”

Micheletti didn’t specify what he would do after 10 days. He has said previously that he plans to arrest Zelaya, who was deposed in a June 28 coup. Zelaya faces treason and abuse of authority charges for ignoring court orders to drop plans for a referendum on rewriting the constitution.

But Micheletti has also said he has no plans to raid the embassy and that Zelaya could leave if Brazil offers him political asylum.

Diplomatic ties continued to fray Sunday as Organization

of American States diplomatic personnel arriving at the Tegucigalpa airport were reportedly not allowed into the country. Government spokesman Rene Zepeda said visas for the diplomats were revoked in retaliation against their countries, which severed relations with Honduras after the coup. It was unknown how many or which diplomats were affected. The U.S. is among those countries that have been revoking visas of Hondurans representing the Micheletti’s government. And local media reported seeing Micheletti’s daughter Siomara, assigned to work as a diplomat at the Honduran Embassy in Washington, arriving back in Honduras after being deported from the U.S.

Zelaya, who surprised the world by sneaking back into Honduras last week, called on his followers nationwide to mark Monday’s three-month anniversary of the coup with a mass march in the capital to demand his reinstatement.

Brazil — like the rest of the international community —

recognizes Zelaya as Honduras’ legitimate president, and says it wants to protect him. But Brazil said previously that Zelaya’s arrival took embassy officials by surprise, and Silva asked Zelaya “to take care to give no pretext to the coup leaders to engage in violence.”

On Tuesday, the day after Zelaya’s return, baton-wielding soldiers used tear gas and water cannons to chase away thousands of his supporters outside the embassy in Tegucigalpa, Honduras’ capital. Since then, the mission has been surrounded by police and soldiers. Zelaya and about 65 supporters inside accused authorities of temporarily cutting off water and electricity early in the week, and later said the government released an unidentified gas that caused headaches, nosebleeds and nausea.

Brazilian Charge d’Affaires Francisco Catunda confirmed that Saturday: “Yes, it was released,” he said in a rare interview outside the building. “One of our officials felt it,



Supporters of ousted Honduras’ President Manuel Zelaya protest against the country’s interim government in front of the U.S. embassy in Tegucigalpa, Saturday, Sept. 26, 2009. Honduras’ interim leader Roberto Micheletti said Zelaya might be allowed to leave Brazil’s embassy where he has taken refuge without being arrested if he is granted political asylum outside the country.

(AP Photo/Rodrigo Abd)

felt symptoms.” Catunda added that some people had throat problems, but did not give details.

The U.N. Security Council has issued a statement that “called upon the de facto government of Honduras to cease harassing the Brazilian Embassy.”

A Honduran rights group, the Committee for the Defense of Human Rights, said Saturday that independent medical

personnel entered the embassy and confirmed there were some symptoms. But Zelaya was in good health, they said. Zelaya accused Micheletti’s government Sunday of bombarding the embassy with “electromagnetic radiation.” In a statement broadcast by Channel 36 television, Zelaya did not offer any other details, nor specify whether the alleged radiation had hurt anyone. □



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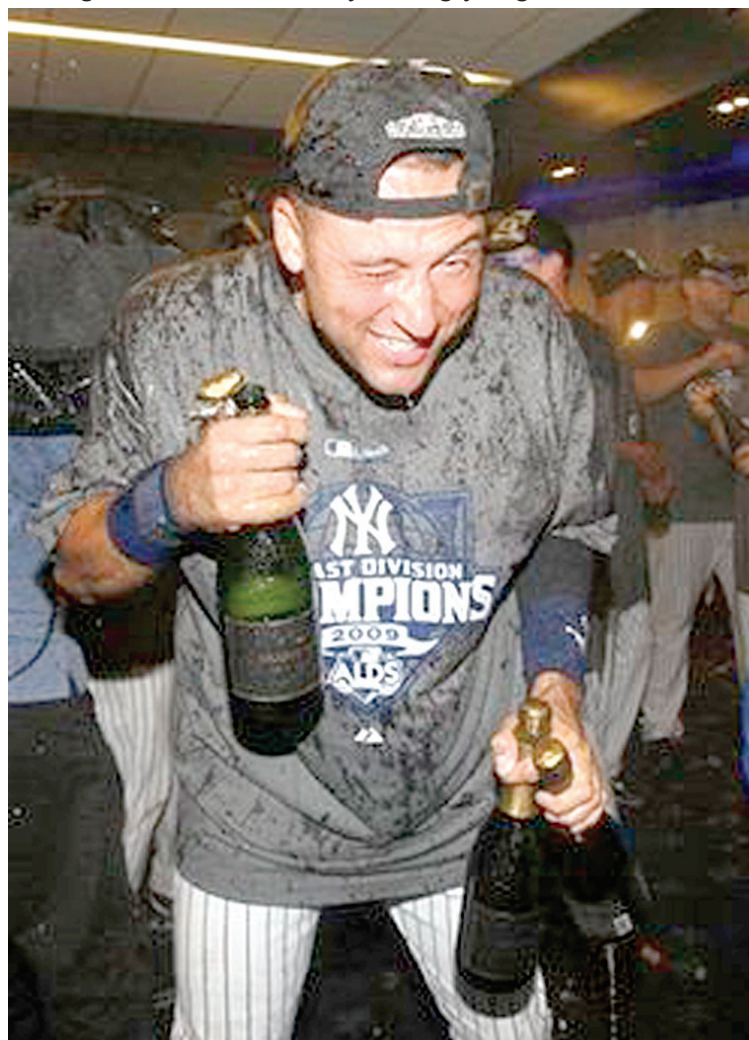
Aruba TODAY

Yankees clinch AL East, home field thru postseason



NEW YORK (AP) Soaked to the skin with champagne, Mark Teixeira stood on the giant "NY" logo in the Yankees clubhouse and shouted like crazy. "Tastes good!" he hollered. Favored to win the World Series since opening day, the New York Yankees celebrated like playoff newcomers after beating Boston 4-2 Sunday

to clinch the AL East title and home-field advantage throughout the postseason. Absent from the playoffs last season, the Yankees put a bow on this title with their major league-leading 100th win. "Everything is clicking right now," winning pitcher Andy Pettitte said. "When you miss out, it makes you a little more hungry to get back there."



Maybe that's why Derek Jeter, Mariano Rivera and a roomful of All-Star multimillionaires went wild, chanting and jumping and spraying each other with bubbly. Teixeira and many others wore goggles to stave off the sting - of victory, that is.

"I think the way last year ended left a bad taste in all our mouths," manager Joe Girardi said. "There's a lot of excitement. This has been a fun group, and they enjoy it." Hideki Matsui's go-ahead single in the sixth inning energized the damp fans and put them on notice that a party was coming. The first real bash at the new Yankee Stadium began with a most familiar scene - Rivera on the mound, closing out another clincher.

Catcher Jose Molina leaped up from behind the plate even before Rivera had fielded Jacoby Ellsbury's soft comebacker for the final out. The Yankees swarmed Rivera on the first-base side of the mound while players in the bullpen streamed in.

Nick Swisher wasted no time putting on an AL East Champions hat. The crowd responded with a standing ovation as the Yankees began walking off the field, with Jeter at the front and several teammates pulling on gray championship T-shirts.

"Winning a championship is what I came here for," pitcher CC Sabathia said. "It definitely feels good - first one in pinstripes, first one in the new stadium, first celebration."

The three-game sweep extended the Yankees' winning streak to five. They finished 9-9 against Boston this year, surprising since New York lost the first eight matchups.

"We're going to see them again down the road, we have a feeling," slugger Alex Rodriguez said.



Despite the defeat, the Red Sox remain in firm control of the wild-card race. Their magic number is two to beat out Texas for the final playoff spot.

"Hope we win tomorrow," Boston manager Terry Francona said. "That's normally what we do. Play. If you win, move on. If you lose, learn and move on. That's what our next chore will be." Still to be determined is who New York will meet in the best-of-five opening round, and when. The Yankees will most likely face the AL Central winner, either Detroit or Minnesota.

Once all the playoff teams are determined, the Yankees will get 1 hour to decide which playoff schedule they prefer. They can choose to start on either Oct. 7 or Oct. 8; the earlier start date includes a day off between the first two games.

Boosted by newcomers such as Teixeira, Sabathia and Swisher, the Yankees won

their first division title since 2006. They drenched the high-tech clubhouse, with plastic sheets preventing the computer screens at every stall from getting doused.

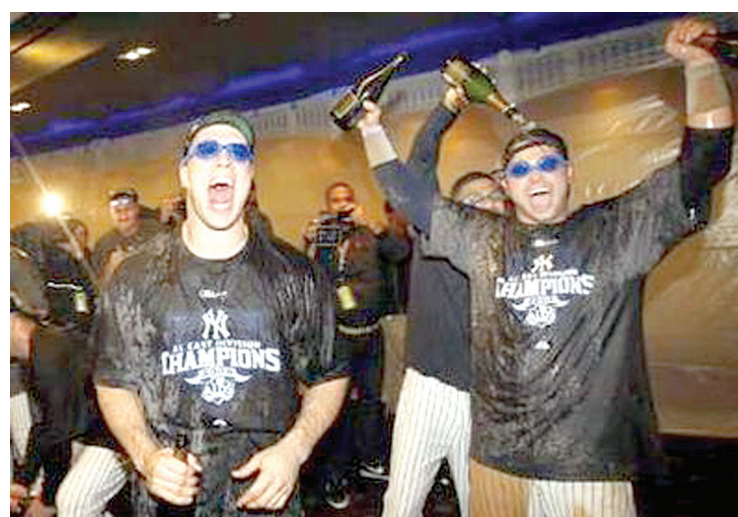
All alone in first place since July 21, the Yankees can now spend the final week resting players and setting up the playoff rotation.

"I like this team here," Jeter said. Pettitte (14-7) outpitched Paul Byrd (1-3), and Rivera finished for his 44th save in 46 chances.

Boston put two runners on base in the ninth. Pinch-hitter Victor Martinez's 25-game hitting streak ended when his grounder was ruled an error on second baseman Robinson Cano.

"Hard work, determination and a bunch of great attitudes, when you put that all together you accomplish a lot of things," Rivera said.

After a 63-minute rain delay at the outset, the Yankees beat Boston for the seventh straight time at home. □



Vitali Klitschko stops Arreola after 10th round



LOS ANGELES — Vitali Klitschko gave Cris Arreola such a beating that his corner finally stepped in to stop the fight. Good thing, because Arreola wasn't about to quit by himself.

Klitschko cemented his spot alongside his brother, Wladimir, at the top of the heavyweight ranks Saturday night by battering a game but outclassed Arreola around the ring for 10 rounds. Arreola remained upright the entire fight but had taken so many punches that his corner wouldn't let him out for the 11th round.

It was a dominating performance for Klitschko, who retained his piece of the heavyweight title and denied Arreola's bid to become the first Mexican-American to win a heavyweight crown. Arreola was still willing to fight some more, but trainer

Henry Ramirez ended things with his fighter still on his stool after the 10th round.

"He was taking too much punishment," Ramirez said. "When I told him I was going to stop the fight he was irate."

Arreola spent almost the entire fight moving forward in an attempt to get inside his taller opponent, but paid a heavy price as Klitschko landed punches from almost every angle to his head and midsection. By the later rounds, Arreola's face was a bloody mess, yet he continued to plod forward in an increasingly desperate attempt to land a big punch inside.

Klitschko put on an impressive show, using both his reach advantage and his considerable ring skills to land left hooks followed by an assortment of right hands. But he was never able to put Arreola down, and never landed enough big punches to make him want to quit.

"I know I was hurting him a lot but he has a great, great chin," Klitschko said. "I was surprised he did not come out (for the 11th round)."

One ringside judge gave Klitschko all 10 rounds while the other two gave Arreola one round. The Associated Press had Klitschko winning every round.



It was the third win for Klitschko since he returned last year from a four-year retirement he said he needed to allow his body to heal. His brother, Wladimir, also a heavyweight champion, was in the corner to give him advice but there was little that needed to be said about a performance so dominating that there seemed little chance for Arreola even after the first round.

"I'm so sorry, I really wanted to be champion," Arreola said. "I never wanted to quit."

Ringside punch statistics showed Klitschko threw 802 punches, a huge amount for a heavyweight, and landed 301 of them. Arreola was credited with landing 86 of 331 punches.

Klitschko was a 5-1 favorite,




but Arreola thought he would have a puncher's chance at the very least. He didn't, largely because Klitschko not only takes a good punch but refused to allow him inside to land many.

Klitschko, who stood a half-

head taller than Arreola, used his left jab when he wanted Arreola on the outside, and threw uppercuts and short hooks at him when he tried to get inside. He ran his record to 38-2 while stopping an opponent within the distance for the 37th time. □

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Phil wins Tour Championship, Tiger the FedEx Cup



ATLANTA (AP)—Phil Mickelson capped off a tumultuous summer at home with a spectacular rally Sunday to win the Tour Championship. Tiger Woods finished another big year by winning the FedEx Cup and its \$10 million bonus. In a riveting conclusion to golf's regular season, its two biggest stars shared the stage at East Lake with trophies that were meaningful in vastly different ways. Mickelson seized control with a 31 on the front nine and closed with a 5-under 65 for a three-shot victory, his first since his wife and his mother were diagnosed with breast cancer in the spring. Both have a positive outlook in the recovery, although it has been an emotional burden for Lefty

over the last three months. For the third time this year, Woods struggled while playing in the final pairing. He didn't make a birdie until the 15th hole, and by then it was too late to catch Mickelson. Woods closed with an even-par 70, ending his playoff streak of eight consecutive rounds in the 60s, and was alone in second. Even so, he received quite a consolation prize—a FedEx Cup title that rewarded him for a remarkable year in which he came back from major knee surgery not knowing what to expect. Woods won six times, and was either first or second in more than half his events. Mickelson, who returned to No. 2 in the world with his victory, finished at 9-under 271. He needed Woods to finish eighth



or worse to have any chance in the FedEx Cup, although Mickelson still climbed to No. 2 and earned a \$3 million bonus, on top of his \$1.35 million for winning the Tour Championship. Four players had a chance to win the FedEx Cup along the back nine. Kenny Perry was the projected winner until he chopped up the par-5 ninth with a bogey and completed his meltdown on the back nine on his way to a 74. Steve Stricker, who only had to finish ahead of Woods when it became clear Mickelson would win the tournament, was in position to do that until mud on his ball in the 16th fairway led

to a bogey. Stricker shot a 69 and finished sixth. "I knew it was close, put it that way," Stricker said of the FedEx Cup race. "Whatever. I played my hardest." Mickelson closed out the decade with bookend victories at East Lake. He also won the Tour Championship in 2000 when he rallied to beat Woods in the final round. This one was even more impressive. Confident as ever from his putting tips from former PGA champion Dave Stockton, Mickelson rolled in consecutive birdie putts of 15 feet on No. 3 and 30 feet on No. 4, then pulled into a share of the lead with an approach that caught the lip at No. 8 for a tap-in birdie. He played the final 20 holes of the Tour Championship without a bogey. Woods, meanwhile, when a stretch of 24 holes without a one-putt birdie until he knocked one in from 35 feet on the 16th. So who was the big winner? "Let me see if I get this straight," Mickelson said. "I shot 65 and he shot (70), and he gets a check for \$10 million ... no, I'm just kidding. I didn't play well in the first three events to give myself a chance." Sean O'Hair, who was two shots behind throughout the back nine with an outside chance of winning, gave the nod to Woods. □

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Gobierno de facto Honduras impide ingreso de OEA

TEGUCIGALPA (Reuters) - El Gobierno de facto de Honduras se aisló más internacionalmente el domingo al rechazar el ingreso al país de una delegación de la OEA, después de dar un ultimátum a Brasil para que defina la situación del depuesto presidente Manuel Zelaya, refugiado en su embajada. El Gobierno que tomó el poder tras el golpe de Estado contra Zelaya el 28 de junio negó la entrada de un grupo de funcionarios de la Organización de Estados Americanos que llegó a Tegucigalpa, lo que frustraría una misión de cancilleres anunciada por la secretaria de Estado de Estados Unidos, Hillary Clinton. El director de Población y Política Migratoria, Nelson Mejía, dijo a Reuters que

no se les permitió el ingreso porque "nuestro país fue suspendido como miembro de esa organización", días después del golpe. La decisión contradice un comunicado del Gobierno de facto, que días atrás dijo que cancilleres de la OEA serían bienvenidos para mediar en la crisis, y ocurre en medio de versiones sobre que habría sido deportada desde Estados Unidos la hija del presidente de facto, Roberto Micheletti. La tensión con Brasil por el regreso de Zelaya aumentó después de que Micheletti diera a Brasilia 10 días para definir la situación de Zelaya, ultimátum que el presidente Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva rechazó. Zelaya, atrincherado en la sede diplomática brasileña en Tegucigalpa desde que regresó clandestinamente



El depuesto presidente de Honduras Manuel Zelaya habla por teléfono en la embajada de Brasil en Tegucigalpa, 23 sep 2009. El Gobierno de facto de Honduras ha señalado estar dispuesto a permitir una visita de una misión de la Organización de Estados Americanos (OEA) para tratar de resolver la crisis tras el derrocamiento del presidente Manuel Zelaya, dijo el miércoles un funcionario estadounidense. REUTERS/Edgard Garrido

a Honduras el lunes, llamó a sus partidarios a realizar una "ofensiva final" para restituirlo.

En un comunicado emitido por la cancillería la noche del sábado, el Gobierno de facto pidió a Brasil que su

embajada en Tegucigalpa no sea utilizada para llamar a la insurrección. □

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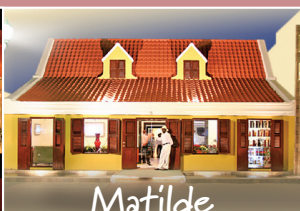
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